

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 /075 W

----- 066278

R 070901Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7886

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 1702

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLO, XF, JA

SUBJ: ALLEGED OPENING OF PLO OFFICE IN JAPAN

REF: BEIRUT 1691

1. FONOFF (MURATA) ASSURES US THAT BEIRUT NEWSPAPER STORY CITED REFTTEL HAS "NO FOUNDATION WHATSOEVER". THERE IS NO OFFICIAL PLO DELEGATION ON WAY TO TOKYO. ONLY PLO VISITOR ON HORIZON IS ANWER ABDER RAHMAN, REPRESENTED IN LOCAL PRESS AS SIRECTOR OF PLO FOREIGN RELATIONS AND INFORMATION DEPT, WHO REPORTEDLY WILL ARRIVE APRIL OR MAY ON INVITATION OF RIGHT WING CITIZENS GROUP IN NARA. AS PRIVATE VISITOR, RAHMAN WILL HAVE NO OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH GOJ, MURATA CONTINUED.

2. PRIME MINISTER MIKI HAS NOT AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO ALLOW PLO OFFICE TO BE OPENED IN TOKYO, MURATA CONTINUED. MIKI'S STANCE ON QUESTION IN RECENT DIET INTERPELLATION FEB 5 WAS NONCOMMITTAL. HE TOLD OPPOSTION QUESTIONER THAT IT
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PREMATURE FOR JAPAN TO RECOGNIZE PLO AS REPRESENTAITVE ORGAN

OF AN INDEPENDENT STATE, ADDING THAT GOJ WOULD STUDY ANY FORMAL REQUEST FROM PLO TO OPEN TOKYO OFFICE, IF SUCH REQUEST MADE. PLO HAS NOT ASKED GOJ YET FOR PERMISSION TO OPEN OFFICE, BUT MAY SOON, MURATA CONTINUED. GOJ WILL HAVE HARD TIME TURNING REQUEST DOWN, HE SAID.

3. IN STATEMENT NEXT DAY TO DIET BUDGET COMMITTEE, MIKI REPORTEDLY TOLD QUESTIONERS THAT PLO VIRTUALLY REPRESENTS PALESTINIANS. LATER FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA ANSWERED OPPOSITION QUERY WITH STATEMENT THAT OPENING OF PLO OFFICE IN TOKYO WOULD NOT IMMEDIATELY MEAN DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF PLO THOUGH IT MIGHT LEAD TO RECOGNITION ULTIMATELY.

4. COMMENT: THOUGH BEIRUT STORY UNFOUNDED, WE HAVE STRONG IMPRESSION THAT GOJ BELIEVES IT WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT PRESENCE OF PLO OFFICE ONCE REQUESTED, IF ONLY AS WAY OF FORESTALLING FORMAL RECOGNITION. IF USG WISHES TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ON ISSUE NOW IS THE TIME, BEFORE ANY FORMAL POSITIONS HAVE SOLIDIFIED.

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